

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NRC-05

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FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5779

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L IAEA VIENNA 3691

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJECT: A AND B COMMITTEE DEBATE: SAFEGUARDS STAFFING

REF: A) IAEA 3415; B) IAEA 3537

SUMMARY: STATEMENTS OF DELEGATES, BOTH IN OPENING STATEMENTS AND IN DETAILED DISCUSSION OF SAFEGUARDS AS A BUDGET TOPIC REFLECTED CONSIDERABLE NEGATIVE REACTION TO PROPOSAL TO ADD SIX PROFESSIONAL POSTS TO INSPECTORATE, PARTICULARLY TO CREATION OF A NEW DIRECTOR POST. WHILE PROPOSAL WAS NOT WITHOUT DEFENDERS (INCLUDING U.S.), NO CONSENSUS EMERGED AND MATTER WILL BE TAKEN UP AGAIN AT JUNE BOARD. ITALIAN RATIFICATION OF NPT MAY WELL HAVE IMPROVED DG'S POSITION COMPARED TO WHAT IT WAS AT A AND B COMMITTEE, BUT AGENCY AND U.S. WILL HAVE TO DO SOME EXTENSIVE LOBBYING AND CLARIFICATION IF PROPOSAL IS TO SURVIVE JUNE BOARD.
END SUMMARY.

1. AGENCY PROPOSAL TO ADD SIX POSTS TO INSPECTORATE WAS SINGLED OUT FOR COMMENT BY A NUMBER OF REPS IN THEIR OPENING STATEMENTS. SOMEWHAT TO SURPRISE OF USDEL, U.K. REP (JACKSON) LED OFF WITH REMARK THAT DG'S PROPOSAL OF
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ESTABLISHING THREE P-3 AND THREE P-4 POSITIONS IN LIEU OF

PRESENT SIX P-2 POSITIONS, AND ADDING FIVE NEW P-5 POSITIONS AS WELL AS NEW DIRECTOR POST, SMACKED OF "TOO MANY CHIEFS, NO INDIANS" AND STATED U.K. "NOT SURE" TO WHAT EXTENT NEW DIRECTOR POST WAS JUSTIFIED. JAPANESE REP (SASAKI) ENDORSED THIS VIEW, SUGGESTING DECISION BE POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE. FRG REP (UNGERER) NOTED THAT NEW DIRECTOR POST HAD NOT BEEN RECOMMENDED BY "SEVEN WISE MEN" IN 1974 RECOMMENDATIONS TO DG; THAT THERE WAS NO URGENT NEED FOR IT; THAT NEW POSITIONS SHOULD NOT BE ESTABLISHED WHEN THERE WERE 25 UNFILLED VACANCIES IN INSPECTORATE, AND THAT MATTER SHOULD BE DEFERRED TO JUNE. ITALIAN REP ENDORSED THIS. FRENCH REP (DEMENTHON) MADE SIMILAR REMARKS, URGING THAT PERSONNEL OF DIVISION STRUCTURE SHOULD BE MORE PYRAMIDAL IN SHAPE. INDIAN REP (MEHTA), THOUGH RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE OF SAFEGUARDS (*), DEPLORED "DISPROPORTIONATE" INCREASE IN SG COSTS AS COMPARED TO COSTS EXPENDED FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, OBSERVING THAT SINCE U.S. AND U.K. VOLUNTARY OFFERS WERE NOT YET BEING IMPLEMENTED THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INSPECTOR POSITIONS. MORE URGENT NEED, HE SAID, WAS FOR AGENCY TO HELP STRENGTHEN NATIONAL SYSTEMS OF ACCOUNTING AND CONTROL. PHILIPPINE REP (SIAZON), PERHAPS BECAUSE HE HAD OBSERVED THAT HIS PROPOSAL FOR \$7 MILLION TARGET FOR TA WOULD BE DEFERRED TO JUNE, JOINED OTHERS IN URGING THAT SAFEGUARDS STAFFING QUESTION BE POSTPONED UNTIL JUNE.

2. US REP NOTED AS FIRST AMONG PRIORITIES FOR AGENCY DEVELOPMENT OF "WELL ORGANIZED, EXPANDING PROGRAM" IN SAFEGUARDS AND PHYSICAL PROTECTION FIELDS, BOTH OF WHICH IN THE INTEREST OF IMPORTING COUNTRIES AS WELL AS SUPPLIERS. US THEREFORE FIRMLY SUPPORTED PROPOSED STAFF INCREASES AND "IN PARTICULAR" CREATION OF ADDITIONAL DIRECTOR POST. CANADIAN REP (HAMMOND) ALSO DELIVERED SPIRITED DEFENSE OF SAFEGUARDS STAFFING PROPOSAL (PARA 3 REF B) AS DID AUSTRALIAN REP (O'NEILL) WHO, LIKE HAMMOND, STRESSED THAT FALSE ECONOMIES IN THIS DIVISION WOULD INHIBIT ABILITY OF AGENCY TO HIRE BEST BRAINS AVAILABLE FOR THIS TASK. IN BRIEF STATEMENTS, SWEDISH AND SWISS REPS ALSO SUPPORTED DG'S REQUEST.

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3. NEAR THE END OF DISCUSSION ON THIS TOPIC, INSPECTOR GENERAL ROMETSCH TOLD BOARD THAT 15 NEW INSPECTORS WOULD BE REQUIRED WHEN EURATOM VERIFICATION AGREEMENT IS IMPLEMENTED. LARGER RESULTING STAFF WOULD BE TOO UNWIELDY TO SUPERVISE UNLESS DIVISION WERE RESTRUCTURED TO INCLUDE A THIRD DIRECTOR. IN GENERAL TERMS, ROMETSCH DESCRIBED POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH DIVISION COULD BE REORGANIZED, E.G. ON STRICTLY REGIONAL (NOT FAVORED BY HIM) OR ON FUNCTIONAL

SPECIALTY LINES, OR COMBINATION.

4. COMMENT: IF STAFFING PROPOSAL IS TO WIN APPROVAL OF JUNE BOARD, ROMETSCH WILL HAVE TO DO PERSUASIVE SELLING JOB IN THE INTERIM. CLEARLY, IT IS HARD TO JUSTIFY TO MANY BOARD MEMBERS AN INCREASE IN POSITIONS WHEN THERE ARE POSITIONS ON SAFEGUARDS STAFF YET UNFILLED. ITALIAN RATIFICATION OF NPT IS VERY HELPFUL IN THIS CONNECTION, FOR WITH EURATOM SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT NOW CERTAIN TO BE IMPLEMENTED SOMETIME IN 1975, AGENCY'S JUSTIFICATION FOR ADDITIONAL POSTS IS REMOVED FROM REALM OF THE HYPOTHETICAL. MOREOVER, UK AGREEMENT PER VOLUNTARY OFFER WILL IN ALL LIKELIHOOD BE BEFORE THE BOARD THIS SEPTEMBER. U.S. AGREEMENT SHOULD ALSO BE COMING ALONG. ITS IMPLEMENTATION WILL ALSO REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INSPECTORS. ROMETSCH NOW PLANS TO PROCEED IMMEDIATELY WITH FILLING 15 POSITIONS, OR 10 IMMEDIATELY WITH FIVE MORE TO BE FILLED THIS FALL. IN EITHER CASE, HE WILL BE IN BETTER POSITION AT JUNE BOARD REGARDING NEED FOR NEW DIRECTOR POST, THOUGH HE MAY STILL FACE OPPOSITION ON ESTABLISHMENT OF OTHER NEW POSTS. IN LATTER EVENT, ROMETSCH WILL BE ABLE TO SHOW THAT WITH EURATOM AND U.K. AND POSSIBLY U.S. VOLUNTARY OFFERS BEING REALIZED, A CLEAR NEED FOR MORE POSITIONS EXISTS WHICH, UNLESS APPROVED BY BOARD, MAY COMPEL AGENCY TO REQUEST SUPPLEMENTAL ASSESSMENT IN 1976, WHICH NOBODY IS ANXIOUS TO CONTEMPLATE. MISSION INTENDS TO DO ALL IT CAN LOCALLY TO SUPPORT AGENCY'S POSITION. END COMMENT.LABOWITZ

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